[Mr. N. V. Chacko.]

(*e*) the distance of the places in Aikkaranad nearest to and remotest from the Perumbavur Munsiff's Court from that Court and the Muvattupuzha Munsiff's Court.

Mr. C. O. Madhavan : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) (i) 6 miles from Muvattupuzha.

(ii) 16½ miles from Perumbavur.

(*d*) & (*e*) (i) 16 miles from Muvattupuzha.

(ii) 10 miles from Perumbavur.

Petition from Mr. N. P. Varughese re : transfer of jurisdiction over Aikkaranad pakuthi.

84. * **Mr. N. V. Chacko :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they and the High Court received petitions from Mr. N. P. Varughese, B. A., B. L., President, Aikkaranad Agriculturists' Association, on behalf of the people of Aikkaranad praying that the civil jurisdiction over the Aikkaranad pakuthi may be continued as at present under the Muvattupuzha Munsiff's Court ;

(*b*) the area of the Aikkaranad pakuthi ; and

(*c*) the population of Aikkaranad ?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) 19·67 Square miles.

(*c*) 15,680 as per the Census of 1931.

Contract for supply of tyres for transport buses.

85. * **Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair** (*Trivandrum and Nedumangad* cum *Chirayinkil*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they have at present given any contract for the supply of tyres for the transport buses to any company, concern or individual, and, if so, whether they will lay on the table a copy of such contract ; and

(*b*) whether tenders have been called for such supply, if any ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) The contract for the supply of tyres for the Transport Department has been given to Messrs. Ardeshir & Co., Tyre Factory, Madras. As the agreement is one that has been entered into between a commercial department and a business firm it cannot be placed on the table without the firm's approval.

(*b*) Enquiries were addressed to all companies dealing in tyres in India and the present contractor was the only one agreeable

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

to the supply of tyres on a mileage contract basis under which Government would pay to the supplier a predetermined rate pervehicular mile. Such a contract indemnifies the Government against tyre failure and ensures the provision of tyres at all times in a roadworthy condition.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether Government have advertised for the supply of tyres?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Sir, as stated in the answer all well-known manufacturers of tyres were previously consulted before the agreement was finally decided upon.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether it was a matter of consultation or advertisement which weighed with Government ... ...

President: Order, order. The insinuation is out of order and the question is ruled out.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know the companies to which Government sent communications?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: The exact number is not known but I may assure the honourable member that all well-known manufacturers of tyres in India have been consulted and their quotations were called for.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know the date when such consultations were made?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Before February, Sir.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether Messrs. Ardeshir & Co., offered the lowest quotation?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Not only did they offer the lowest quotation but they were the only firm to agree to enter into a contract with the Government under which Government would pay to the supplier a pre-determined rate per vehicular mile.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Could the honourable member mention the name of any other company or concern which was consulted?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai. I may say, the Dunlop Company.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: What was the quotation of the Dunlop Company per mile?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: They did not agree to this vehicular mileage rate to which the other firm agreed.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Was the vehicular mileage rate fixed by Government or was it suggested by the company?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: It was decided in consultation with the company.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Am I to take it that the Dunlop Company was not consulted for their mileage rate?

President: Order, order. The question is ruled out as it is an abuse of the right of questioning.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know the amount that is offered by way of expense per mile?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: It is one anna four pies per mile.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know the amount acceptable to the Dunlop Company?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: As I have already said they did not agree to any mileage rate.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: What was the nature of the consultation with the Dunlop Company?

President: Order, order. Communications between Government and the company are confidential and no questions in regard to them can be answered.

Tyres used for the transport buses.

86. * **Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of miles for which a tyre now used for the transport bus could be used;

(*b*) the number of tyres that are required for a transport bus;

(*c*) the cost price of one such tyre; and

(*d*) the number of transport buses that are now in service?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: (*a*) Approximately 6,000 miles.

(*b*) Six.

(*c*) Rs. 90 for one tyre and tube.

(*d*) Forty-eight on an average.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether there is any guarantee or undertaking by the company that they would run a tyre for a fixed distance only?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: There is no such condition, Sir.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair Am I to take it that the company is entitled to run a tyre over and above the distance stated in the answer?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Sir, the tyres are expected to be used for a mileage of 6000 and odd and if it is found defective, the company has either to repair it or renew it.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly